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Application No. 10/070,436



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mikio WATANABE et al.

Art Unit: 1711

Serial No : 10/070,436
(National Stage of PCT/JP00/006398)

Examiner: Hampton Hightower

I.A. Filed : September 20, 2000

For : METHOD FOR PRODUCING CYCLIC LACTIC ACID OLIGOMER

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**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111
IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 21, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 21, 2003, which sets a three-month shortened statutory period for response until October 21, 2003.

Applicants hereby request an extension of time for three months to extend the period for response until January 21, 2004, and are concurrently filing a formal Request for Extension of Time for three months accompanied by the government fee. If for any reason the Request for Extension of Time is not associated with the file at the Patent and Trademark Office and/or if the fee is deficient and/or any extensions of time are necessary, this is an express request for any required extension of time to maintain the pendency of the application, and authorization to charge any required extension of time fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Entry of the following amendment and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.